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single piece. Some of their pots are made of a metamorphic serpentine, much harder than steatite, and the sight of these objects seemed like a return to the stone age. No such utensils have been found by Dr. Schweinfurth in any other part of Africa, and they are absolutely wanting in the museums. It is not strange, therefore, that Mr. Flinders Petrie imagined that he had found in the environs of Tukh the tombs of a new immigrant race, while there is every reason to believe, with De Morgan, that the race discovered by the English savant was in reality the oldest Egyptian race.

*Nel Paese delle Amazzoni. Pel Prof. Dott. Vincenzo Grossi, libero docente di Etnologia Americana nella R. Università di Genova. Roma, Tip. dell'Unione Cooperativa Editrice, Via di Porta Salara, 23-A. 1897. 8vo.*

In this little book of 120 pages Dr. Grossi presents a summary of the physical and political geography of the Brazilian States of Pará and Amazonas and their products, with special reference to Italian commerce and navigation. Such a work is, of necessity, a compilation; made, however, in this instance by a writer who is intimately acquainted with the vast literature of his subject, and able to correct his reading by his own observations. With all its statistics, the work may be read with pleasure for its style and finish.

It has several pretty illustrations and an excellent map of the Amazon basin.

*Dr. Alfonso Lomonaco. Da Palermo a New-Orléans. Roma, E. Loescher & Co. (Bretschneider e Regenberg) Librai di S. M. la Regina d'Italia. 8vo. (1897.)*

Originally published in the *Rassegna Nazionale*, of Florence, these Notes of Travel make an interesting volume worthy of preservation. Dr. Lomonaco, as physician of the steamer *Montebello*, had rare opportunities for studying the types of the southern Italian emigrants on board the vessel. His descriptions of character and of scenery are not less life-like, though briefer, than those of De Amicis in his book, *Sull' Oceano*, on a similar subject.

The first impression on landing in New Orleans was anything but pleasing. The stranger made his way at the risk of his life, through ill-paved and crowded streets, each more muddy than the last; but once in the heart of the city, he found many things to admire. The animation of the crowds continually interested him.



He was struck with the beauty of the women, and he noted particularly the soft tone of their voices.

Dr. Lomonaco knew the history of the city and of Louisiana, and devoted much of his time to a study of the public institutions and the schools, for which he has nothing but praise.

His readers will have a good idea of New Orleans and its people.

*The Natural Geographies. Natural Elementary Geography, by Jacques W. Redway New York Cincinnati and Chicago, American Book Company. 4to. (1897.)*

According to the publishers' announcement, the central idea of this primary geography is *man*, his history, customs, industries, and geographic relations. It may be doubted whether this constitutes such a title to originality as to justify the assumption of the term *natural*, as a distinctive epithet; but the book is none the less a good book, clear, concise and accurate, sound in the main and full of interest.

The text and the illustrations are mostly in right relation to each other, and not much is left for the pupil to unlearn.

Young Americans, however, will hardly incline to undervalue the United States, and the classification of Canada and Mexico as *minor* countries is not in the line of wholesome instruction.

*The First Crossing of Spitsbergen, being an Account of an Inland Journey of Exploration and Survey, with Descriptions of several Mountain Ascents, of Boat Expeditions in Ice Fjord, of a Voyage to North-East Land, the Seven Islands, down Hinlopen Strait, nearly to Wiche Land, and into most of the Fjords of Spitsbergen, and of an almost complete circumnavigation of the main Island. By Sir William Martin Conway, M.A., F.S.A., F.R.G.S., sometime Roscoe Professor of Art, University College, Liverpool. With Contributions by J. W. Gregory, D. Sc., A. Trevor-Battye, and E. J. Garwood. Together with Eight Coloured Plates reproduced in facsimile from Sketches by H. E. Conway, Two Maps, and about One Hundred Full-Page and Text Illustrations from Photographs and Sketches. MDCCCXCVII. London—J. M. Dent & Co., 67 St. James's Street, S.W., and Aldine House, E.C.*

Sir William Conway has taken possession of Spitzbergen, like an army with banners. Much has been written about this outpost in the Arctic Ocean, but few will care to look up the older records,